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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/614,280 | SCHILLING ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Wassem H Hamdan | Art Unit 2854 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 07/07/2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. The drawings filed on 07 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____. |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. <u>1</u> | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:
 - a. Specification: page 1 "Related Applications" section:
 - i. "P03,0223)," has been replaced with – P03,0223; US Application 10/614,443), --;
 - ii. "P03,0219)," has been replaced with – P03,0219; US Application 10/614,476), --; and
 - iii. "P03,0159)," has been replaced with – P03,0159; US Application 10/614,326), --;

 - b. Claims: "claim 1, lines 10, "DMA" has been replaced with – Direct Memory Access (DMA) --.

Foreign Priority Document

2. The cover letter that mailed on 07/07/2003, shows that the applicant attached the Foreign Priority Document (102 30 679.6), and in a telephone interview with the attorney Mr. Steven H. Noll (Registration No. 28,982) on 12/30/2003, the attorney confirmed that the Foreign Priority Document was mailed to the USPTO office on 11/24/2003. The examiner was not able to find the Foreign Priority Document in the case.

Examiner's Statement Of Reason For Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-14 are allowable.

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of record does not teach all the combined steps for a method for operating a mail-processing device having at least one printhead including the steps transferring said binary pixel data word-by-word from said pixel memory into said two buffer memories and entering successive words of one of said data strings being alternatingly into one of said two buffer memories, for intermediate storage therein editing the data words stored in the other of the two buffer memories, at respective addresses designated by said address generator, and printing said edited information represented by the data words via said DMA controller.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art of record does not teach all the combined steps as discussed above in the "examiner's statement of reasons for allowance".

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5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wasseem H Hamdan whose telephone number is (703) 305-3968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (first Friday off) 6:30 AM- 4:00 PM.

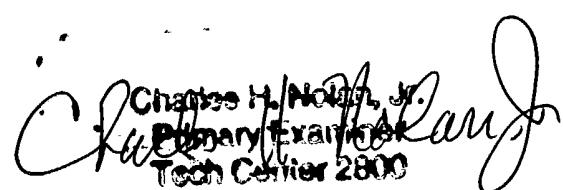
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Andrew H Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0956.



Wasseem H. Hamdan

December 30, 2003



Charles H. Novak, Jr.
Primary Examiner
Tech Center 2800